

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DRC-01 /044 W
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R 181112Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4463
INFO AMEMBASSY SUVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 7248

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, FJ, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US-FIJI AIR RELATIONS

REF: A) STATE 128570; B) MANILA 7112

1. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE PROVOCATIVE NATURE OF GOF ACTION IN CANCELLING ONE PAA FLIGHT, USDEL INCLUDING VICE CHAIRMAN GILLILLAND CONTINUE TO FEEL GAME PLAN OUTLINED IN MANILA 7112 IS BEST OPTION FROM STANDPOINT US INTERESTS. PROCESSING AIR PACIFIC PERMIT AS LEAST TO FINAL STEP WILL PROVIDE US WITH BREATHING SPELL IN ORDER TO DETERMINE BEST FINAL COURSE OF ACTION. ASSURANCE TO GOF ON THIS POINT AND UNDERTAKING TO REVIEW TAHITI MATTER (UNLESS WASHINGTON HAS ALREADY FINALLY DECIDED THIS IS NOT NEGOTIABLE) SHOULD AFFIRM READINESS TO BE AS COOPERATIVE AND AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE.

2. IN CONNECTION THIS MATTER BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE THAT PAA SHOULD CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS WITH AIR PACIFIC AND RECOMMEND THAT PAA BE URGED TO DO SO. FINAL DECISION ON CONSORTIUM, AS WITH AIR PACIFIC PERMIT, SHOULD DEPEND ON SITUATION AT TIME. USDEL CONTINUES TO BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT GRANT OF EXCLUSIVE ON FIJI-PAGO PAGO SECTOR BE IN CONTEXT OF PAA PARTICIPATION IN

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CONSORTIUM IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. FINAL DECISION ON

CONSORTIUM AND PERMIT COULD THUS BE INTER-RELATED ON MOST
OPTIMUM TIMING BASIS.

3. OF COURSE PAA (AND WASHINGTON) REACTION TO GOF ACTION
AGAINST PAA IS UNDERSTANDABLE AND IN OTHER BILATERAL
SITUATIONS PROBABLY DESIRABLE. BUT OUR READING OF FIJIANS
IS THAT THEY ARE PROUD AND SENSITIVE AND IN THIS CASE FEEL
THAT THEY HAVE BEEN BADLY TREATED. STATESMANLIKE APPROACH
HERE MORE LIKELY PROOVE ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION THAN HEAVY
HANDED ACTION, NO MATTER HOW WELL DESERVED.

4. VICE CHAIRMAN GILLILLAND WILL PURSUE FURTHER ON HIS
RETURN TO WASHINGTON. APPRECIATE ADVISING MRS. GILLILLAND
OF VICE CHAIRMAN'S PROSPECTIVE ARRIVAL JUNE 24.

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Message Attributes

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